

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

S. S.,

Plaintiff,

v.

NUZHAT ALI, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. [23-cv-05074-JSC](#)

**PRETRIAL ORDER NO. 3: AMENDED  
CASE SCHEDULE**

Following the Initial Case Management Conference held on August 22, 2024, IT IS  
ORDERED:

**I. CASE MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE**

Discovery Dispute Joint Letter Deadlines <sup>1</sup> :	August 30, 2024
Deadline to Move to Amend Pleadings:	September 13, 2024
Jointly Submit Schedule of Remaining Discovery:	September 26, 2024
Fact Discovery Cut-Off:	October 25, 2024
Expert Witness Disclosures:	November 15, 2024
Rebuttal Expert Witness Disclosures:	December 13, 2024
Expert Discovery Cutoff:	December 20, 2024
Deadline for Filing Dispositive Motions:	January 11, 2025
Deadline to Complete Dispositive Motion Briefing:	February 6, 2025
Deadline for Hearing Dispositive Motions:	February 27, 2025

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<sup>1</sup> For the matters discussed at the August 22, 2024 case management conference.

A further Case Management Conference is scheduled for November 14, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom video. An updated Joint Case Management Conference Statement is due one week in advance. The Court will be particularly interested in whether the parties will revisit private mediation or should be referred for a magistrate judge settlement conference.

## **II. DISCOVERY DEADLINES**

All depositions must be noticed at least 30 days before the close of fact discovery. Any discovery-related letter briefs or motions are due one week after the close of fact discovery. The same rules apply to expert discovery. *See* N.D. Cal. Civ. L.R. 37-3.

## **III. TRIAL DATE**

A. Jury trial will begin on April 28, 2025, at 8:30 a.m., in Courtroom 8, 19th Floor, U.S. District Court, 450 Golden Gate, San Francisco, California.

B. The Court is expecting the length of the trial to not exceed 5 court days.

## **IV. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE**

A Final Pretrial Conference shall be held on April 10, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., in Courtroom 8, 19th Floor. Lead trial counsel for each party shall attend.

A. At least seven days prior to date of the Final Pretrial Conference the parties shall do the following:

1. In lieu of preparing a Joint Pretrial Conference Statement, the parties shall meet and confer in person, and then prepare and file a jointly signed Proposed Final Pretrial Order that contains: (a) a brief description of the substance of claims and defenses which remain to be decided; (b) a statement of all relief sought; (c) all stipulated facts; (d) a joint exhibit list in numerical order, including a brief description of the exhibit and Bates numbers, a blank column for when it will be offered into evidence, a blank column for when it may be received into evidence, and a blank column for any limitations on its use; and (e) each party's separate witness list for its case-in-chief witnesses (including those appearing by deposition), including, for all such witnesses (other than party plaintiffs or defendants), a short statement of the substance of his/her testimony and, separately, what, if any, non-cumulative testimony the witness will offer. For each witness, state an hour/minute time estimate for the direct examination (only). Items (d) and (e)

1 should be submitted as appendices to the proposed order. The proposed order should also state  
2 which issues, if any, are for the Court to decide, rather than the jury.

3           2.       File a joint set of proposed instructions on substantive issues of law  
4 arranged in a logical sequence. If undisputed, an instruction shall be identified as “Stipulated  
5 Instruction No. \_\_\_\_ Re \_\_\_\_\_,” with the blanks filled in as appropriate. If disputed, each  
6 version of the instruction shall be inserted together, back to back, in their logical place in the  
7 overall sequence. Each such disputed instruction shall be identified as, for example, “Disputed  
8 Instruction No. \_\_\_\_ Re \_\_\_\_\_ Offered by \_\_\_\_\_,” with the blanks filled  
9 in as appropriate. All disputed versions of the same basic instruction shall bear the same number.  
10 Any modifications to a form instruction must be plainly identified. If a party does not have a  
11 counter version and simply contends that no such instruction in any version should be given, then  
12 that party should so state (and explain why) on a separate page inserted in lieu of an alternate  
13 version. With respect to form preliminary instructions, general instructions, or concluding  
14 instructions, please simply cite to the numbers of the requested instructions in the current edition  
15 of the Ninth Circuit Model Jury Instructions. Other than citing the numbers, the parties shall not  
16 include preliminary, general, or concluding instructions in the packet.

17           3.       File a separate memorandum of law in support of each party’s disputed  
18 instructions, if any, organized by instruction number.

19           4.       File a joint set of proposed voir dire questions supplemented as necessary  
20 by separate requests.

21           5.       File trial briefs on any controlling issues of law.

22           6.       File proposed verdict forms, joint or separate.

23           7.       File and serve any objections to exhibits.

24           8.       File a joint simplified Statement of the Case to be read to the jury during  
25 voir dire as part of the proposed jury instructions. Unless the case is extremely complex, this  
26 statement should not exceed one page.

27           B.       Any motions in limine shall be submitted as follows: at least twenty (20) calendar  
28 days before the conference, the moving party shall serve, but not file, the opening brief. At least

ten (10) calendar days before the conference, the responding party shall serve the opposition. There will be no reply. When the oppositions are received, the moving party should collate the motion and the opposition together, back-to-back, and then file the paired sets at least seven (7) calendar days before the conference. Each motion should be presented in a separate memorandum and properly identified, for example, "Plaintiff's Motion in Limine No. 1 to Exclude . . . ." Each party is limited to bringing five motions in limine. The parties are encouraged to stipulate where possible, for example, as to the exclusion of witnesses from the courtroom. Each motion should address a single, separate topic, and contain no more than seven pages of briefing per side.

C. Hard-copy courtesy copies of the above documents shall be delivered by NOON the day after filing. The Joint Proposed Final Pretrial Order, jury instructions, and verdict form shall also be submitted via e-mail as Word attachments to [jsc\\_settlement@cand.uscourts.gov](mailto:jsc_settlement@cand.uscourts.gov). The Court requests that all hard-copy submissions be three-hole-punched.

## **V. PRETRIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

A. Should a daily transcript and/or real-time reporting be desired, the parties shall make arrangements with Kristen Melen, Supervisor of the Court Reporting Services, at (415) 522-2079, at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the trial date.

B. During trial, counsel may wish to use overhead projectors, laser-disk/computer graphics, poster blow-ups, models, or specimens of devices. Equipment should be shared by all counsel to the maximum extent possible. The Court provides no equipment other than an easel. The United States Marshal requires a court order to allow equipment into the courthouse. For electronic equipment, parties should be prepared to maintain the equipment or have a technician handy at all times. The parties shall tape extension cords to the carpet for safety. The parties may work with the deputy clerk, Ada Means (415-522-2015), on all courtroom-layout issues.

## **SCHEDULING**

Trial will be conducted from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 or 3:00 p.m., depending on the availability of witnesses, Monday through Friday. Counsel must arrive by 8:15 a.m., or earlier as needed, for any matters to be heard out of the presence of the jury. The jury will be called at 8:30 a.m.

## **THE JURY**

1 The Jury Office asks prospective jurors to complete an online jury questionnaire in  
2 advance of their summons date. The standard questionnaire available on the Northern District's  
3 website at [http://www.cand.uscourts.gov/wp-content/uploads/attorneys/Internet-version\\_Standard-](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov/wp-content/uploads/attorneys/Internet-version_Standard-CAND-Trial_SurveyMonkey_3-2022.pdf)  
4 [CAND-Trial\\_SurveyMonkey\\_3-2022.pdf](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov/wp-content/uploads/attorneys/Internet-version_Standard-CAND-Trial_SurveyMonkey_3-2022.pdf). The parties are allowed to add 10 case specific  
5 questions to the questionnaire. The parties shall meet and confer, and to the extent possible, file a  
6 joint list of proposed questions to add to the questionnaire. To the extent that the parties cannot  
7 agree, they may submit separate proposed questions from which the Court will choose 10. The  
8 parties joint or separate submissions are due 21 days before trial. The Court will provide the  
9 parties with the survey responses the Friday before trial.

10 In civil cases, there are no alternate jurors and the jury is selected as follows: Eighteen to  
11 twenty jurors are called to fill the jury box and the row in front of the bar, and are given numbers  
12 (1 through 20). The remaining potential jurors will be seated in the public benches. Hardship  
13 excuses will usually be considered at this point. Counsel may conduct a limited voir dire.  
14 Challenges for cause will then be addressed out of the presence of the potential jurors. The Court  
15 will consider whether to fill in the seats of the stricken jurors. If so, questions will be asked of the  
16 additional jurors and cause motions as to them will be considered. After a short recess, each side  
17 may exercise its allotment of peremptory challenges out of the presence of the potential jurors.  
18 The eight (or such other size as will constitute the jury) surviving the challenge process with the  
19 lowest numbers become the final jury. If more (or fewer) than eight jurors are to be seated, then  
20 the starting number will be adjusted. So too if more than a total of six peremptories are allowed.  
21 Once the jury selection is completed, the jurors' names will be read again and they will be seated  
22 in the jury box and sworn. The Court may alter this procedure in its discretion and after  
23 consultation with the parties.

#### 24 WITNESSES

25 At the close of each trial day, all counsel shall exchange a list of witnesses for the  
26 next two full court days and the exhibits that will be used during direct examination (other than  
27 for impeachment of an adverse witness). Within 24 hours of such notice, all other counsel shall  
28 provide any objections to such exhibits and shall provide a list of all exhibits to be used with the

1 same witness on cross-examination (other than for impeachment). The first notice shall be  
2 exchanged prior to the first day of trial. All such notices shall be provided in writing.

### 3 **EXHIBITS**

4 A. Prior to the Final Pretrial Conference, counsel must meet and confer in person to  
5 consider all exhibit numbers and objections and to eliminate duplicate exhibits and confusion over  
6 the precise exhibit.

7 B. Use numbers only, not letters, for exhibits, preferably the same numbers as were  
8 used in depositions. Blocks of numbers should be assigned to fit the need of the case (e.g.,  
9 Plaintiff has 1 to 100, Defendant A has 101 to 200, Defendant B has 201 to 300, etc.). A single  
10 exhibit should be marked only once. If the plaintiff has marked an exhibit, then the defendant  
11 should not re-mark the exact document with another number. Different versions of the same  
12 document, e.g., a copy with additional handwriting, must be treated as different exhibits with  
13 different numbers. To avoid any party claiming “ownership” of an exhibit, all exhibits shall be  
14 marked and referred to as “Trial Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_,” not as “Plaintiff’s Exhibit” or “Defendant’s  
15 Exhibit.”

16 C. Exhibits tags: Exhibits must be labeled in the lower right-hand corner with the  
17 exhibit number in a prominent, bold typeface.

18 D. Counsel must consult with each other and with the deputy clerk at the end of each  
19 trial day and compare notes as to which exhibits are in evidence and any limitations thereon. If  
20 there are any differences, counsel should bring them promptly to the Court’s attention.

21 E. The parties shall provide the Court with one official set of the record exhibits seven  
22 (7) days before the Pretrial Conference. Each exhibit must be separated with a label divider  
23 identifying the exhibit number. Spine labels should indicate the numbers of the exhibits that are in  
24 the binders. At trial, the parties shall provide individual witness exhibit binders which contain all  
25 the exhibits the parties expect to use with the witness. The parties shall provide two copies of each  
26 witness binder: one for the witness and one for the Court.

27 F. Before the closing arguments, counsel must confer with the deputy clerk to make  
28 sure the exhibits in evidence are in good order.

## CHARGING CONFERENCE

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

  
JACQUELINE SCOTT CORLEY  
United States District Judge